

EXHIBIT 9

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CITY OF SEATAC CITY COUNCIL MEETING

2

OCTOBER 6, 2016

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TRANSCRIPT OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING REGARDING
FIRS MOBILE HOME PARK

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Transcribed by:

25 Andie Evered, CCR

1 Audio from 10/6/16
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3 MS. MENDOZA-CASTREJON: Hello everyone. So, name
4 is Monica Mendoza-Castrejon. I am an organizer and a
5 tenant counselor in South King County for the Tenants
6 Union of Washington. And, I am here today with the Firs
7 Mobile Home community, which has resided here in SeaTac.
8 And, we're -- we're all here. And, we wanted to bring
9 attention to the city, and to as many people as possible,
10 that, you know, we are really fighting for these families
11 to be here, to live in the city of SeaTac. However, there
12 is a landlord, who, you know, is -- is really trying to
13 push these families out. And, we have a couple of
14 testimonies, and several questions from a couple of them
15 who speak after myself, going down the list.

16 MR. SIEFKES: They're on the list?

17 MS. MENDOZA-CASTREJON: Yeah, yeah, yeah. So,
18 they're on the list and they will be speaking.

19 But, yes, I am here we wanted to this attention,
20 we are luckily having more media attention. King 5 News
21 interviewed us today. But, yes, we wanted to bring you to
22 this attention -- and my question is also, like, is there
23 any efforts being done regarding these landlords,
24 regarding the mobile homes, and opportunities for people
25 to stay here? And I, also, wanted to bring to awareness,



1 to the City of SeaTac, the Angle Lake station currently
2 opened, very recently. And, there was a couple of
3 misconceptions, you know, regarding about the tenants
4 union and the Firs Mobile Home community was not in
5 support of the opening of the Angle Lake station, as well
6 as the expansion of light rail. But, I'm also here to
7 tell everyone that we are in support of transit. You
8 know, we -- we really do believe -- want it to be in
9 consideration that, you know, we don't want families to be
10 displaced. Because, as development occurs, as -- you
11 know, as the price of land occurs and continues to raise
12 up, rent will increase and there will be an issue of
13 homelessness; right? And I, myself, I was born and raised
14 in South King County, in Renton and Kent. And it was
15 very, very difficult for me to live, you know, in the City
16 of Seattle and other places because of the increase in
17 rent, and whatnot. So, we are here in support of transit
18 definitely, definitely. But, we just wanted to make sure
19 it's regarding this, right? That families don't get
20 displaced. And, yeah, we've some powerful testimonies
21 about people who live in Firs Mobile Home, you know,
22 regarding what's happening. And, so my question, yes,
23 again, is there any efforts being done regarding these
24 landlords, and, you know, mobile home efforts? And, you
25 know, we -- we want to (unintelligible) about that. Thank



1 you.

2 MR. SIEFKES: Thank you. I'll take question
3 first. I went and met with the tennants union two or
4 three weeks ago, was at the meeting. I've also talked to
5 staff on this issue, reviewed what the law is.

6 Now, over the years, of decades, there's been
7 lots of litigation when a mobile home park would close.
8 There would be people that would want to stay, people that
9 would want to go, and the landlord the would want people
10 out. And, so, state law is clear, that there is a
11 checklist of things that have to be done. And, it's under
12 state law. It's not under city law, it's under state law.
13 About the only role of the city in the closing of a mobile
14 home park is to make sure that the landlord is complying
15 with state law, which apparently, right now, they are.
16 Now, they have not given official notice to the people in
17 the Firs Mobile Home Park of the closure, which means that
18 until they hear that, that starts a one-year clock. So,
19 as far as the city's role in this, it's -- it's very small
20 and -- and there's not a lot that the city can do. And, I
21 -- you know, wish you luck and I -- and I hope it works
22 out well for you. But, as far as the city goes, there's
23 not a lot that the city can do.

24 MS. FERNALD: So, to piggy back on what Mike just
25 said, I'm a voting member of the joint resolution



1 committee. And, some of you folks came to that meeting
2 last week, and, I wanted to let you know that after you
3 after you spoke, I did make a written request to Mark
4 Ellerbrook. He's the gentleman who spoke to you guys in
5 Spanish, which surprised all of us. He's from King County
6 and he is the manager of the Regional Housing and
7 Community Development office, okay? And, so, I requested
8 him to see what the county could do to help you guys. Not
9 necessarily to stay there, because as Mike just said, you
10 know, that might not be a possible thing. But, to help
11 you guys with whatever else is out there per the law and
12 is available for you.

13 So -- so, you have a big crew behind you, you
14 know, to help you figure out what you can do next, okay?

15 MS. MENDOZA-CASTREJON: Thank you.

16 MS. FERNALD: Yes, so don't lose heart or hope,
17 okay.

18 MS. MENDOZA-CASTREJON: Thank you. Thank you.

19 MR. SIEFKES: Okay. Peter?

20 MR. KWON: Thanks. I was at the Angle Lake light
21 rail regional opening and I know that you guys were off on
22 the side demonstrating during the opening. And, I was
23 actually already aware of that because you came to one of
24 our council meetings and it -- I didn't know what was
25 going on until you came to the council meeting because,



1 you know, I usually don't drive through there. But, I did
2 drive through after the fire and I noticed all the damage
3 and all that. So, anyway, what I wanted to say is that as
4 Mayor Siefkes mentioned, this is a state level thing.
5 And, just like with the low (unintelligible) development,
6 the city is -- doesn't have a lot of authority when it
7 comes to something like this. So, we really need to take
8 this to our state representative. So, one of the things
9 that I have done -- and this is actually outside of this
10 whole thing -- but I've been doing this on my own to try
11 help you guys, I've reached out to the Community
12 Development Housing and Tribal Affairs chair down in
13 Olympia to see if there was anything we could -- the state
14 could do to help you guys. And, so, that -- that has just
15 started, literally about maybe a week and a half ago. So,
16 I'm still waiting to hear more information about that.
17 But my guess is that it -- it may take a while. It's not
18 something that -- they don't move overnight. And, so, you
19 know, it could take potentially several years. I mean, I
20 don't know. But, I am trying to figure out if there may
21 be other options to get you guys additional help. Just
22 wanted to let you know.

23 MS. MENDOZA-CASTREJON: Thank you.

24 MR. SIEFKES: Thanks. Okay, Kathryn? And then
25 we'll move on to the next person.



1 MS. CAMPBELL: Well, excuse my terrible Spanish
2 (speaks in Spanish). For the rest of you in the room, I
3 just asked how many people that are back there that live
4 in the Firs speak English well. I believe I saw two or
5 three hands. (Unintelligible).

6 MS. MENDOZA-CASTREJON: (Unintelligible).

7 MS. CAMPBELL: I understand and I'm very grateful
8 for that.

9 My point is, for the rest of you, a lot of these
10 are Spanish speakers, they earn a living, they live here,
11 they pay taxes here. They don't pay property tax; that's
12 the job of the property owner. But, they're still
13 taxpayers and they're part of the community. And, so,
14 anything we can do to help them, I'd like to see us do.

15 One of the things I understand that the city
16 staff is endeavoring to help with is making sure that that
17 the legal documents are rewritten in Spanish and being
18 checked by a separate translator, to make sure that it
19 says what it's supposed to say, so that they can read it
20 in their primary language and be sure of what they're
21 signing before they put their name on the dotted line.
22 So, want to translate that, Monica?

23 MS. MENDOZA-CASTREJON: Yeah, I was.
24 I was translating.

25 MS. CAMPBELL: Okay. Very good.



1 So, I just want people to know that what the city
2 can do, it's more than willing to do. And, I don't think
3 there was anybody here that wouldn't want to help if they
4 can. So, we will do what we can. And, we can pray for
5 you, and work for you. And, you belong to us and we
6 belong to you. We're your council, just such as much as
7 anybody else that lives here. Thank you.

8 MS. MENDOZA-CASTREJON: Thank you, so much for
9 that. And another thing that I wanted to briefly mention
10 is that anyone who's interested in helping us out, after
11 this meeting, I will be here and I will give you my
12 contact information. Thank you.

13 MR. SIEFKES: All right, next on the list, Cam
14 Harris.

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Oh, sorry.

16 MR. SIEFKES: No?

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I just thought everybody
18 had to sign in.

19 MR. SIEFKES: So, again, if I read your name and
20 you don't want to come up, you can say something or not.

21 We'll just go to the next. Is it Narkher Braos
22 (phonetic) am I saying that correctly?

23 MS. MENDOZA-CASTREJON: What name?

24 MR. SIEFKES: It looks like an N-A-R-K-H-E-R,
25 B-R-A-O-S.



1 MS. MENDOZA-CASTREJON: Yes. I will be her
2 translator.

3 So, she's saying stating that one thing that's
4 unjust about this, what's happening currently,
5 (unintelligible) is that the landlord keeps asking for
6 \$2,000 for all the work that, you know, that's done, and
7 it's unjust in that regard because, you know, they want --
8 they're fighting to live there. And, you know, it's very
9 difficult because their children go to the schools nearby.
10 You know, where they're working, it's close by. And, it's
11 very difficult in that regard. So, just \$2,000 for that,
12 and whatnot, it's just -- it's not good. So, she wants to
13 bring you to attention with that definitely.

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Offering them \$2,000 to
15 move; is that what you're saying?

16 MS. MENDOZA-CASTREJON: Yeah. \$2,000 to move
17 without taking into consideration repairs and everything
18 like that. So, it's far less (unintelligible), you know
19 what it should be.

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 2: You should get an
21 attorney. I mean, seriously.

22 MS. MENDOZA-CASTREJON: Yeah. We -- there are
23 attorneys. And thankfully we, in the tenants union, are
24 helping as much as we can to really fight for them.

25



1 MR. SIEFKES: Thank you, so much.

2 Alright, next we have Rague Velazquez; is that
3 correct?

4 MS. MENDOZA-CASTREJON: (INTERPRETING)

5 So she's saying that she wants to reiterate they
6 may need those who are interested in helping out, but
7 there are 72 families in this community that are being
8 impacted. And, she's reiterating the fact that, you know,
9 our children, you know, that they're going to schools and
10 it's -- and it's very frustrating because many of them
11 have been living here for years, in that mobile home
12 community. And so, therefore, when they're asking to be
13 pushed out, all the work, all the time, all the energy
14 that they had put even into rebuilding, it's so
15 disheartening. So, please, take into consideration the
16 children, ourselves, our jobs, everything, please we ask
17 of you.

18 And, another thing she's (unintelligible)
19 regarding affordable housing. There are some who, you
20 know, are disabled, there are some who are getting SSI,
21 social security money. Like, there's hardly anything. So
22 to find housing, if they can't live there, it's very very
23 difficult. Thank you.

24 MR. SIEFKES: I don't think there's anybody up
25 here that doesn't support you and doesn't feel for you and



1 wouldn't try to help you if we could. And, as far as
2 trying to help you through this, we have resources at the
3 city and people at the city that can help. As far as
4 being able to save the mobile home park from any,
5 basically, change, that's outside of our ability as a city
6 to do.

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Is there more?

8 MR. SIEFKES: Any comments before we go on to the
9 next person? Okay. All right, we're on to Richard
10 Jordan. No? George. No?

11 We're on to Radillo Zamora.

12 MS. MENDOZA-CASTREJON: (INTERPRETING).

13 Hello, good evening to everyone. My name is
14 Radillo Zamora and I represent the community from Firs
15 Mobile Homes. I have been living 17 years at SeaTac. I
16 am here to raise awareness of the situation that we're
17 raising. 71 families and mine, we are here to ask for
18 support for our community leaders so that we can save our
19 homes. Because for others, it will only be mobile homes,
20 but they are our homes. They are our places of living,
21 where our kids have grown up here, and our plea is that we
22 want to stay here, be part of this beautiful city. And,
23 the decision of the landlord is a very unjust decision.
24 And, this is the way he's acting. The despair that we
25 have and the frustration that we all have is immense.



1 And, this not only affects ourselves but the kids in
2 schools. And one final thing -- and I want to also raise
3 clarity the protest that we did regarding transit in the
4 operation of the Angle Lake station. We're not against
5 light rail. We were just asking for help to conserve our
6 mobile homes. Thank you. Thank you for listening and I
7 will hope you have a wonderful evening.

8

9 MR. SIEFKES: Pat Fernald?

10 MS. FERNALD: So, I just want say a little bit
11 more, I guess. I've been through the park, too. After
12 the fire, I did deliver some things there. And I was
13 looking for Norma, Norma Bravo. She's not here, is she?
14 I don't think she's here. But I had a real nice chat with
15 Norma. And I know, gosh, there were -- I don't know how
16 many kids I saw. And, I know that the park, the mobile
17 home park, is right across the street from Madrona. And
18 so I know all those kids go to Madrona. This is really a
19 heartbreaking thing. What I just want to reiterate is
20 that by the law, by the laws that we've got -- legal and
21 ethical sometimes don't go together. But, to my
22 knowledge, at this point in time, the owner of that
23 property's not doing anything illegal. However, that
24 doesn't mean it doesn't have devastating effect on you
25 guys. And, I'm not diminishing that at all. And I said



1 earlier that I would put the word out. And, I'm was just
2 looking at some notes here. There are funds for tenants
3 that can come from the state. And, so, with all us
4 working together for you guys, you know, to put all our
5 resources together, hopefully, we can come help you get
6 something. I can't guarantee what, of course. But, just
7 know that, you know, if this was happening to anybody
8 else, we'd feel the same way no matter what. So even
9 though the landlord is doing within the law, that -- you
10 know, it's leaving you guys in a horrible position. So,
11 we do want to help you. And the community will help you
12 as much as they can and -- and the city. You've already
13 talked to the city, I'm pretty sure that our -- our staff.
14 And, well, we got people working for you.

15 MS. MENDOZA-CASTREJON: Thank you.

16 MS. FERNALD: So just like I said, don't lose
17 heart and don't lose hope. Okay.

18 MS. MENDOZA-CASTREJON: Thank you.

19 MR. SIEFKES: Okay. Next on the list is Ricardo
20 Valdovinos.

21 MS. MENDOZA-CASTREJON: (INTERPRETING)

22 Hello, good evening. My situation is similar yet
23 it's different to what has been described. There's a
24 problem with the plumbing, with the water, where I live.
25 One thing he heard about was the -- with the problem with



1 what was happening in the water. He would ask for help
2 from the landlord. And, the landlord on occasion would
3 come and he would say, "I'm not going to fix that. That's
4 your problem. That's the city's problem. I'm not going
5 to take care of this."

6 So, I went through family problems. It was a
7 very difficult time. I went through a divorce. I have a
8 kid. Yet, you can only imagine the stress I was under.
9 Please. I ask for your help.

10 MR. SIEFKES: Monica, would you take Ricardo
11 back? And, Steve, will you stand up? And Steve has some
12 -- take the information and forward it to code compliance.
13 Ricardo, would you go back to the back? Steve, raise your
14 hand so he know's it's you.

15 Great. Thank you. All right.

16 (End of requested audio)

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1 CERTIFICATION

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3 I, Andie Evered, do here by declare
4 under penalty of perjury under the laws of the
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7 1. That I am an authorized
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9 2. This transcript is a true and correct
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12 3. I am in no way related to or employed
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14 4. I have no financial interest in the
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16 Dated in Bend, Oregon, this 1st day of
17 June, 2020.

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Andie Evered, CCR
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